

4.2.4 Buckson Site (7NC-J-207)

Site Description. The site, once a working farm, is located on a large, level grassy knoll, surrounded on the north, east and south by fallow agricultural fields (Figure 1-1). Historical artifacts concentrated in two distinct areas: at the northern end of the site and mostly in the agricultural field (Area 1), and at the southern end of the site on a slightly elevated grassy knoll (Area 2) (Figure 4-62). Due to continuous plowing (particularly deep chisel plowing) of Area 1 for most of the twentieth century, erosion resulted in a noticeably higher elevation in Area 2. In addition, the site was disturbed by bioturbation and structural demolition after the residence burned in the early twentieth century. West of the site is a mid-twentieth century house, fronting onto existing U.S. Route 13 (Figure 4-63). Three old maple trees ring the east edge of the knoll in Area 2. A rutted road trace leads into the west side of the site in Area 2 and ends abruptly.

The Buckson Site was originally identified and recorded during the UDCAR 1992 survey, and the field notes were later compiled into a management summary by LBA (Bedell and Busby 1997). UDCAR excavated shovel tests at 12 meter (40 foot) intervals along three parallel transects spaced 45 meters (150 feet) apart within the proposed corridor right-of-way (ROW). Historical artifacts were recovered across the entire width of the ROW, for a distance of 600 feet north-to-south. Although 22 5 x 5 foot test units were planned for the site, only seven test units were excavated at the point when field work was stopped. The six units placed along the centerline transect yielded a collective total of 188 artifacts; the one unit placed along the eastern transect yielded 255 artifacts. The artifacts recovered included whiteware, redware, clear glass, aqua glass, lamp glass, milk glass, porcelain, metal fragments, and a single sherd of cream-colored earthenware. Nine Native American artifacts, all flakes or thermally altered stone, also were recovered from the units. The management summary concluded that a farmhouse structure was formerly located in the eastern portion of the site, based upon the higher artifact density recorded in that area. The report also recommended that 7NC-J-207 likely was not eligible for the NRHP because "integrity requirements for sites of such recent dates are quite high" (Bedell and Busby 1997:6).

Archival Research. The Buckson Site was located south of Blackbird Creek in the Forest of Appoquinimink, on land patented by Edward Fitzrandolph in 1737 (Figure 4-64). The land was divided into three parcels: Parcel A (ca.124 acres), B (ca.98 acres), and C (ca.125 acres). The warrant for the survey dated October 1737, indicated that Fitzrandolph had already begun to build on Parcel A (New Castle County Land Surveys 1737a, 1737b). Parcel A contained the Buckson Site, as well as three other sites with historic components: Site 7NC-J-195D (the Blackbird Creek Site), Site 7NC-J-195A, and Site 7NC-J-199/200. Parcel A was advantageously located adjacent to or traversed by two waterways (Blackbird Creek and "Sandum's" Branch) and the main road from Duck Creek to New Castle (now U.S. Route 13). A chain of title for the Site 7NC-J-207 (the Buckson Site) is provided in Table 4-37.

Edward Fitzrandolph, who had formerly served as an officer during the French and Indian War, was a yeoman. In February 1749, Fitzrandolph and his wife, Susanah, sold 170 acres of his land situated on the east side of the King's High Road to John Chapple, a yeoman of the city of Philadelphia, for 250 pounds (NCCDB 1749). In 1749, the Fitzrandolphs were residents of Appoquinimink Hundred, and therefore may have been living on their patent land. The 170 acres were composed of three adjacent parcels: two that Fitzrandolph had patented from the Penn family, and one that had been patented from the Duke of York on January 15, 1675. The latter parcel is probably the triangular area south of Blackbird Creek, north of Fitzrandolph's Parcel A, and east of the main road on the 1737 plat (Figure 4-64). This roughly 15 acres was owned by Johann Hardiman in 1737.

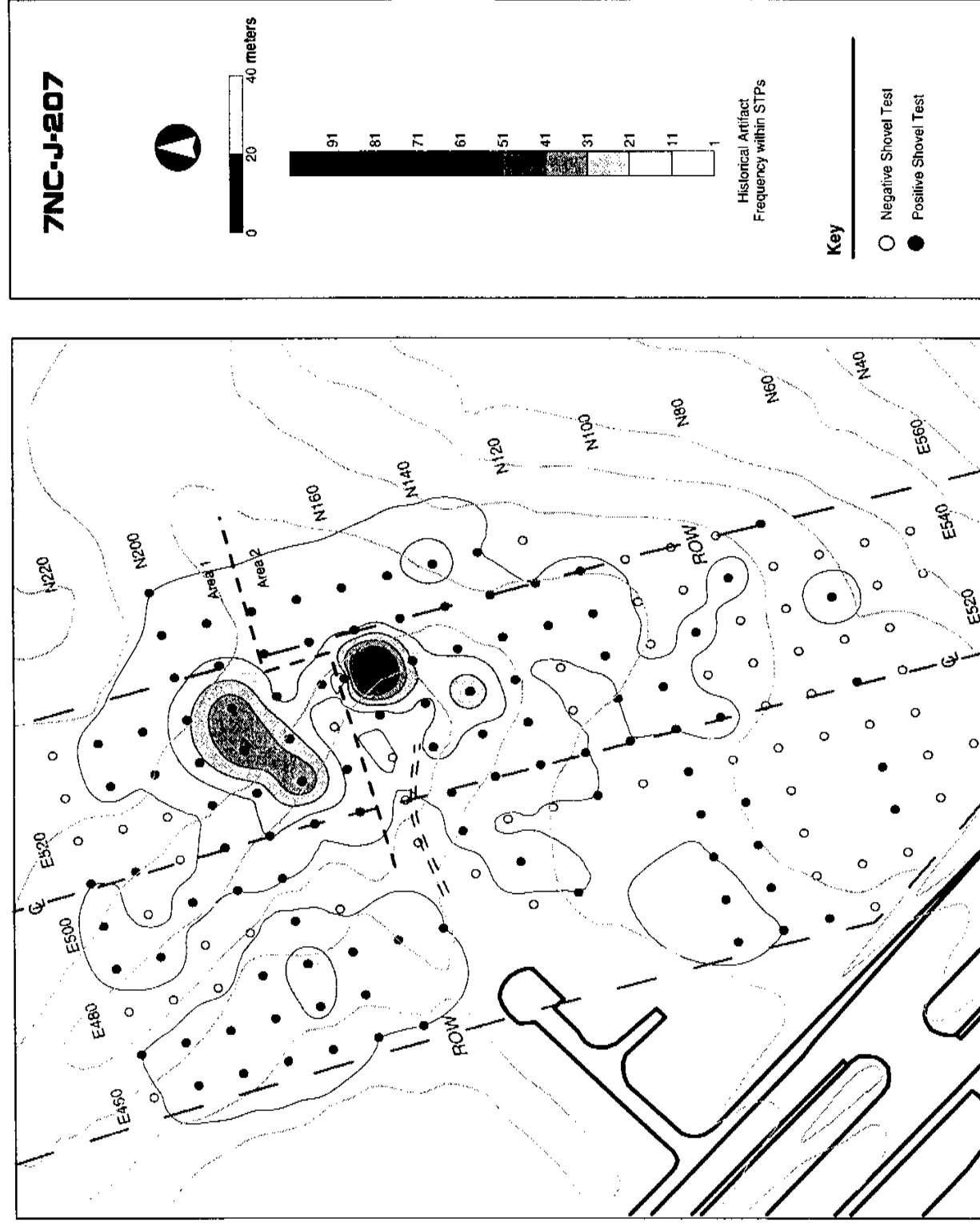


Figure 4-62. Site 7NC-J-207 STPs and Historical Artifact Distribution



Figure 4-63. The Buckson Site Excavations, Looking West.

John Chapple sold the property in 1758 to Thomas Murphy for 250 pounds (NCCDB 1758). At the time of the sale, Chapple was a shopkeeper in Philadelphia, and Murphy resided in Appoquinimink Hundred. In the same transaction, Murphy also purchased a 200-acre tract of marsh and cripple land, five miles away from the project area. When Thomas Murphy wrote his will in 1767 he was an innkeeper still living in Appoquinimink Hundred. Murphy died by 1772, leaving all his real and personal estate to his wife, Sarah, until her death or remarriage (NCCWB 1772). Upon either event, his son, James Murphy, would inherit his estate. If James Murphy died without an heir, Thomas bequeathed his estate to Thomas' cousin, also a Thomas Murphy, the son of his brother, John Murphy. James Murphy apparently was already working as a blacksmith in 1767, since his father left to him all that he now possessed "as his own property viz his smith Shop Iron and its utensils." James also inherited a feather bed and furniture, a cow, a calf, a horse and saddle, and a "little Negro Girl called Susannah."

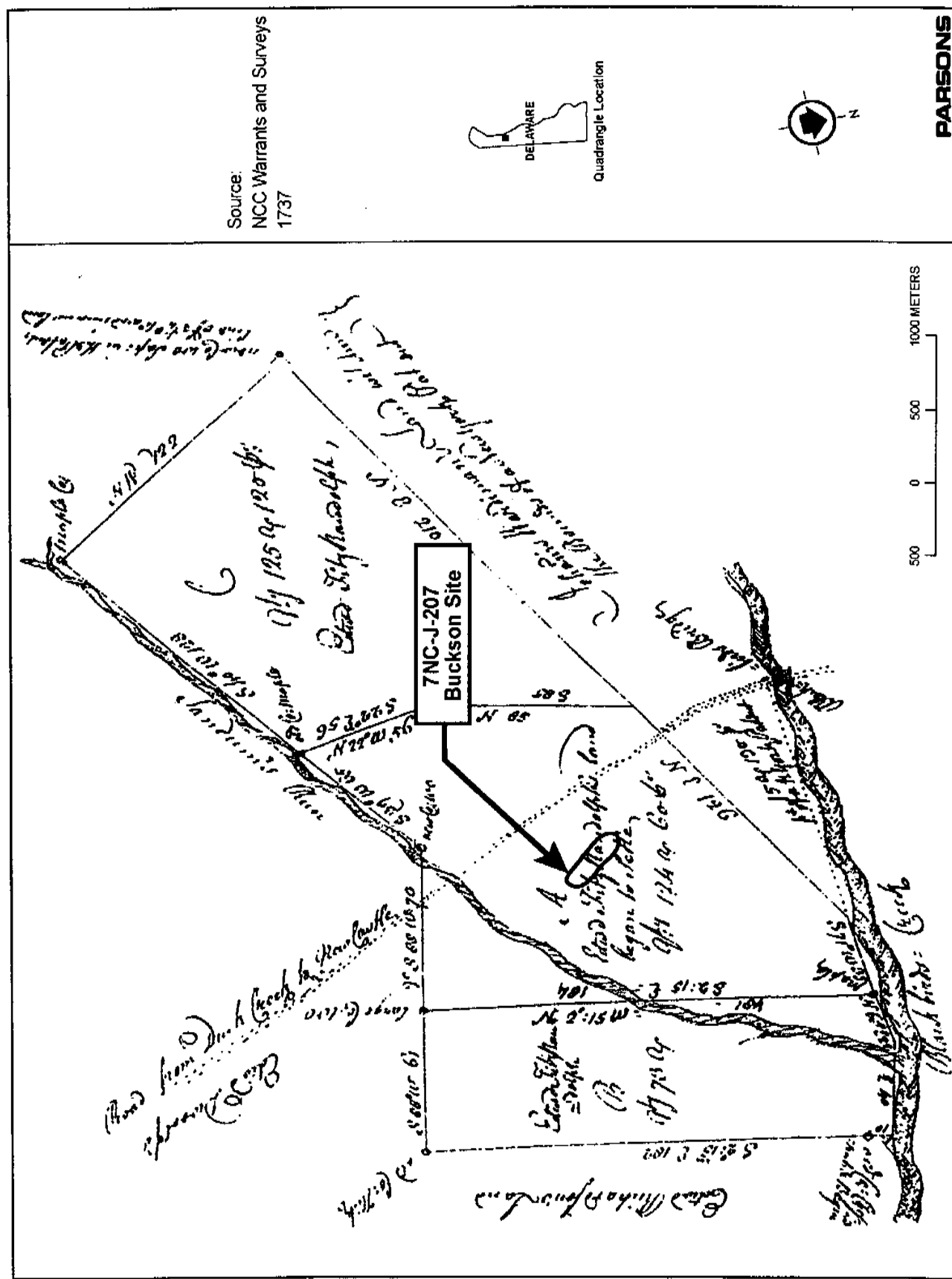


Figure 4-64. Survey of Edward Fitzrandolph's land in 1737 (New Castle County Land Surveys 1737a, 1737b)

Table 4-37. Chain of Title for Site 7NC-J-207 (the Buckson Site)

Instrument Date	Grantor	Grantee	New Castle Co. Book (Volume); Page	Acres	Price	Land Description/ Comments
October 11 and 24, 1737	John Penn, Thomas Penn, & Richard Penn, Esquires, Proprietors of Pennsylvania & New Castle County	Edward Fitzrandolph, yeoman	Survey warrant October 1737 (1737a and 1737b).			Patents for two tracts between Blackbird Creek & Sandom Branch. Mentioned in 1749 deed.
February 20, 1749	Edward Fitzrandolph, yeoman, & wife, Susanah	John Chapple, yeoman	Deed Q (1): 278	3 adjacent parcels, 170 acres	250 pounds	E. side of King's High Rd. to Blackbird Bridge, & S. of Blackbird Creek. Begins at a corner of John Richardson's land where James Egberts now dwells. Two parcels Fitz. Patented from Penn's; 3 rd patent from Duke of York Jan. 15, 1675.
May 23, 1758	John Chapple, shopkeeper, & wife, Martha	Thomas Murphy	Deed S (1): 478	2 tracts: 170 acres [& 200 acres]	250 pounds	170-A tract = plantation by King's High road; to Blackbird Bridge; down Blackbird Creek; corner of John Richardson's land whereon a certain James Egberts lately dwelt.
June 1772	Thomas Murphy	James Murphy (son of Thomas)	Will K (1): 37	None stated	None: bequest	All his real and personal estate, after the death or remarriage of his wife, Sarah. Will written June 1767. Thomas was an innkeeper.
1803	James Murphy estate	Joseph Webster (widower of Hester [nee Lyons] Webster) & his children, Dickinson & Catherine Webster	Orphans Court: Murphy (1802-1803)	119 acres	None: inheritance	Tract A of the division of James Murphy's estate. James Murphy died intestate, and his land is divided by direction of the Orphans Court. James' son = Thomas (the younger); he had died by 1802. James' widow = Catherine; who remarried (Mrs. Patrick Lyons). Catherine & Patrick Lyons had 2 daughters: Hester (Hetty), who married John Webster; & Catherine, who married David Howell.
November 1816	Dickinson Webster	Evan Webster (uncle of Dickinson)	Deed T (3): 323	130 acres	\$900.00	Tract A. Dickinson Webster reached age 21 and confirmed his father's sale of land to Evan I Webster.

Table 4-37. Chain of Title for Site 7NC-J-207 (the Buckson Site) (Continued)

Instrument Date	Grantor	Grantee	New Castle Co. Book (Volume): Page	Acres	Price	Land Description/ Comments
September 1837	Ann Webster estate (widow of Evan Webster)	Eliza Allston (nee Webster) (Mrs. William C.), Ann C. Webster, & Jonathan Webster (children of Ann & Evan Webster)	Will T (1): 330	Not stated	None; bequest	Will written June 1837, recorded Sept. 1837. Each of the 3 children received a 1/3 share of their mother's lands in Appoquinimink Hundred.
June 2, 1840	John W. Garrison (husband of Ann [nee Webster] Garrison)	William Allston	Deed F (5): 4			John Garrison sells his lifetime rights in his wife, Ann C.'s, interest in the land inherited from her parents near the Village of Blackbird, in trust for the benefit of Ann C. Ann C.'s parents were Evan and Ann Webster.
May 29, 1847	William C. Allston & wife, Eliza (nee Webster)	Jonathan Webster (son of Evan I & Ann Webster, brother of Eliza Allston)	Deed B (6): 273	135 acres		Their interest in the land. Jonathan already owned the other 1/2 interest in the land.
January 24, 1849	Jonathan Webster	William Smith	Deed B (6): 281	130 acres	\$1,000.00	
June 1, 1860	Abraham Cannon, Sheriff	Samuel Martin	Deed L (7): 224			Land of William Smith sold for debt of \$2,000.00+ interest from 1858. Includes improvements of a frame dwelling house, kitchen, stabling, & other buildings.
March 19, 1869	Samuel R. Martin & wife, Margaret	Mark D. Hickman	Deed D (9): 450		\$4,500.00	
June 2, 1879	John Pyle, Sheriff	Daniel Corbit	Deed K (11): 348		\$3,500.00	Land of Mark Hickman sold for debt of \$3,000.00 + interest.

Table 4-37. Chain of Title for Site 7NC-J-207 (the Buckson Site) (Continued)

Instrument Date	Grantor	Grantee	New Castle Co. Book (Volume): Page	Acres	Price	Land Description/ Comments
June 4, 1879	Daniel W. Corbit & wife, Mary C.H./ Odessa, St. Georges Hundred, Delaware	John H. Parvis	Deed M (11): 118	102 acres	\$3,162.00	On county road leading from Blackbird to Smyrna. Adjoining land of Richard Ferguson, John McCoy, & others. Begins at a branch of Sandom's Branch (a corner for the land of Colin Ferguson)
February 25, 1882	John Purvis	Rebekah E. Reeder	Deed E (12): 314	102 acres	\$4,100.00	
September 12, 1893	Rebekah Reeder (widow of Daniel T.)	James A. Buckson	Deed F (16): 435	102 acres	\$2,100.00	Except a lot of 85.8 perches of land on the easterly side of the road from Smyrna to Blackbird which was conveyed to Colin Ferguson & the Commissioners of School District (S.D.) 69 (Deed N [13]: 534).
September 1924	James A. Buckson estate	Frances V. Buckson (widow of James A.)	Will X (14): 14		None: bequest	All his real estate. James A. Buckson died Sept. 6, 1924. Will was dated Aug. 25, 1924. All his real estate was left to his widow, Frances V., for her lifetime. Upon her death, the property was to be divided into = thirds for their 3 children: Beulah, James S. & Charles V. Buckson.
September 1954	Frances V. Buckson estate	Beulah, James S., & Charles V. Buckson (children of James A. & Frances V.)			None: inheritance.	Frances V. Buckson died Sept. 6, 1954. The property descended to her 3 children. Frances resided in the house near Blackbird until her death, and so did her children, Beulah & James S., after her death.
June 24, 1955	Charles V. Buckson & wife, Beulah D.; Helen D. Buckson, single; William C. Buckson & wife, Edith; & James P. Buckson, single (the 3 children of Charles V.)	Beulah F. (nee Buckson) Shaw & James Spencer Buckson (children of James A. Buckson)	Deed L (56): 421		\$1.00	The tract near Blackbird was now 124 A. with "dwelling house and other out-buildings" on E. side of US Rt. 13. [James A. Buckson had purchased a 22.5-acre tract adjoining the original 102 acres in 1919.] Charles V. Buckson & his heirs relinquish their rights in the 124 acres to Charles' sister & brother, Beulah & James.

Table 4-37. Chain of Title for Site 7NC-J-207 (the Buckson Site) (Continued)

Instrument Date	Grantor	Grantee	New Castle Co. Book (Volume): Page	Acres	Price	Land Description/ Comments
September 18, 1957	James S. Buckson, widower	Beulah Shaw (nee Buckson) (Mrs. Martin L.)	Deed V (60): 598			Released his ½ interest in the property to his sister, Beulah.
October 1980	Beulah Shaw (nee Buckson)	Martin Shaw, Jr. (Beulah's son)	Will Record 76520		None: bequest	Beulah Shaw died Oct. 28, 1980. Her will was dated 1976.
May 2, 1989	Martin Shaw, Jr.	Liborio, III, L.P., a Delaware Limited Partnership	Deed 864: 118	122.06 acres	\$500,000.00	

The property remained in the Murphy family into the early nineteenth century. Prior to 1802, James Murphy died intestate leaving his widow, Catharine, and his son, Thomas. James' widow remarried, becoming the wife of Patrick Lyons. Catharine and Patrick Lyons had two daughters: Hester (or Hetty) who married Joseph Webster, and Catharine who married David Howell.

By 1802, Hester Webster had died intestate leaving her husband and two children, Dickinson and Catharine. In the Orphans Court Case Files, a petition is filed on August 19, 1802, by David Howell requesting that the real property of James Murphy which totaled about 200 acres, descend to the daughters of his widow Catharine Lyons, since his own son was deceased. In addition, since Hester also was deceased, her portion descended to her children, Dickinson and Catharine Webster (New Castle County Orphans Court Records [NCC Orphans] 1802-1903). An order for the division of the property was entered by the Orphans Court in September 1802, and five freeholders and a surveyor were chosen to divide the "property among the heirs having regard to quality and quantity without prejudice to or spoiling the whole." Murphy's property was divided in 1803 into two tracts, Tracts A and B, and illustrated on a plat (Figure 4-65).

Tract B, containing 82 acres (and Site 7NC-J-195D), was granted to David and Catharine Howell (NCC Orphans 1802-1803). Tract B contained the "Tavern House" in Blackbird, on the east side of the main road (Figure 4-55). Presumably, this is where Thomas Murphy worked as an innkeeper in the eighteenth century.

Tract A, totaling 119 acres, was granted to Joseph Webster, husband of the late Hester, and their two children. The Buckson Site was situated on Tract A. Joseph Webster sold this tract to his brother, Evan I. Webster, for \$900.00; Dickinson Webster (Joseph's son) confirmed the sale by the time he reached age 21 in November 1816 (NCCDB 1816). Joseph Webster and Evan [I.] Webster were sons of Evan T. Webster, who died in 1805. Evan [I.] Webster owned two properties in Appoquinimink Hundred in 1817, one with 200 acres and one of 100 acres (New Castle County Appoquinimink Hundred Tax Lists 1817). Evan [I.] had inherited the 200-acre plantation from his father, Evan T. Webster, in 1805, which contained a log dwelling in 1817. The 200 acres had been the residence of John Brockson and his wife, Elizabeth (Evan I. and Joseph Webster's sister), in 1805, and contained the Sandom Branch Sites (7NC-J-227 and 7NC-J-228) on the west side of the main road, south of Sandom Branch. Evan [I.] Webster also owned 75 improved acres with a small log dwelling, and 25 acres of swampland valued at \$800.00 in 1817. This latter 100 acres included the Buckson Site. Evan I. owned three slaves valued at \$300.00 and livestock worth \$441.00 in 1817.

Evan I. Webster died by 1837 intestate, leaving his widow, Ann, and three children. Ann Webster died in 1837, leaving her estate to her children, Eliza (Mrs. William C. Allston), Ann C. Webster, and Jonathan Webster (NCCWB 1837). Each child received a one-third share in their mother's real estate in Appoquinimink Hundred, and also a portion of her property in St. Georges Hundred. The daughters each received one slave, for the remainder of her time of servitude, and Ann C. and Jonathan received beds and bed clothing.

Ann C. Webster married John W. Garrison by 1840. Garrison sold his interest in the Webster estate lands to William C. Allston in 1840 for \$1.00 (NCCDB 1840a). The sale was in trust, for the benefit of his wife, Ann C. Garrison. Several weeks later, John and Ann Garrison sold their interest in 280 acres of "farmlands and premises" to Edward Records for \$400.00 (NCCDB

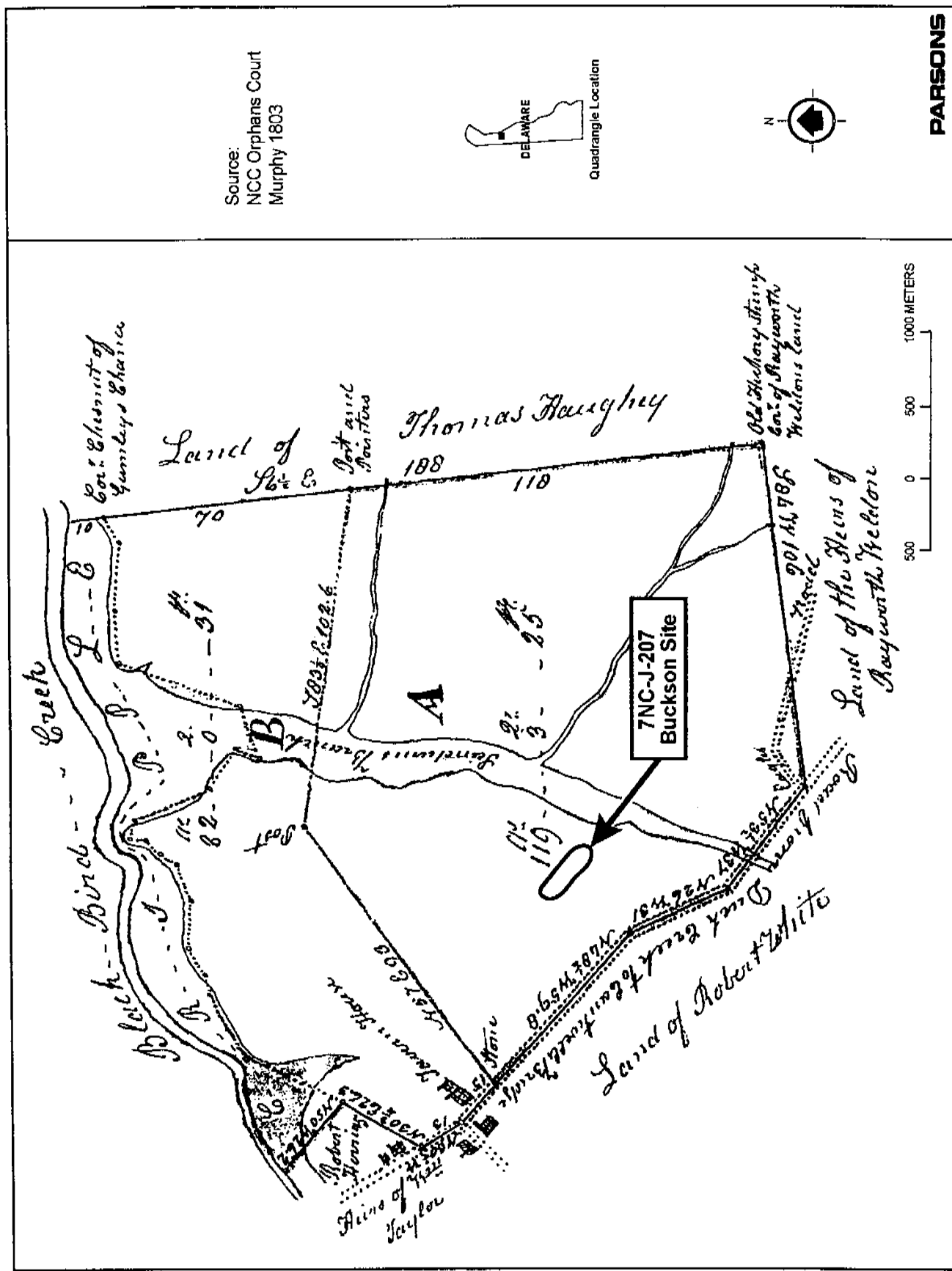


Figure 4-65. Survey of the Estate of James Murphy in 1803 (NCC Orphans 1802-1803)

1840b). Records was a merchant from Kent County, Maryland, and the Garrisons were residents of Appoquinimink Hundred.

When Edward Records and his wife, Rachel, sold their interest in the property in 1842, they were still residents of Kent County, Maryland, and therefore do not appear to have lived on the tract. The new owner was William C. Allston, who paid \$660.00 for 330 acres (NCCDB 1842). William was the husband of Eliza, one of the three Webster heirs from 1837, and therefore already owned a partial interest in the property. It is not known where the extra 50 acres were located. Allston and his wife, Eliza, purchased Jonathan Webster's interest in the 185 acres on the south side of the main road in 1847 for \$1.00 (NCCDB 1847b). Jonathan was Eliza's brother and another of the Webster heirs from 1837. Also in 1847, the Allstons sold their interest in 135 acres on the north side of the main road to Jonathan Webster for \$1.00 (NCCDB 1847a). Therefore, Jonathan Webster became the sole owner of the 135 acres containing the Buckson Site.

By 1849, Jonathan Webster owned a dwelling on his land northeast of the main road and immediately south of Sandom Branch (Figure 4-66). Perhaps this was the "small log dwelling" mentioned in the 1817 tax rolls for this property. The dwelling was situated on the former James Murphy Parcel A from the 1803 survey (Figure 4-65). This dwelling was located on the same parcel as the Buckson Site, and was the only building depicted on this parcel on the 1849 map. Therefore, no major buildings (i.e. primary dwellings, stores, schools) were standing at the Buckson Site in 1849.

In January 1849, Jonathan Webster sold his 130 acres to William Smith of Appoquinimink Hundred for \$1,000.00 (NCCDB 1849). In December 1859, the Superior Court of New Castle County ruled against William Smith and his wife, Rebecca, finding that they owed \$2,000 plus interest from 1858. Smith's property, with the improvements of a frame dwelling house, tenant house, kitchen, stabling and other buildings, was ordered sold to pay the debt. The property was sold in June 1860 to Samuel Martin of Philadelphia (NCCDB 1860b). Since the property contained two dwellings by 1859, it is likely that the older home (the "J. Webster" house in 1849 and possibly the small log dwelling in 1817) had become the tenant house, and that the frame home had been added after 1849. Indeed, the 1868 Beers Atlas indicates that the "J. Webster" house was gone, and that a dwelling belonging to "S. Martin" had been added to the parcel (Figure 4-67). The new house was set back from the main road at the end of an entrance drive oriented north-northeast. The entrance drive began at a crook in the main road that was visible on eighteenth and nineteenth-century maps, but was obscured after the highway was straightened ca.1930.

However, the former drive was probably at or near the present driveway, north of the twentieth century house on U.S. Route 13. The "S. Martin" home probably was located within the boundaries of the Buckson Site, probably beyond the present driveway, near the southwest end of the site.

In March 1869, Samuel Martin and his wife, Margaret, now living in Appoquinimink Hundred, sold this property to Mark D. Hickman of Odessa for \$4,500.00 (NCCDB 1869). Hickman's 100 acres were worth \$2,160.00 by 1873, with 70 acres valued at \$30.00 per acre, and 30 acres of bush land worth \$12.00 per acre (New Castle County South Appoquinimink Hundred Tax Lists

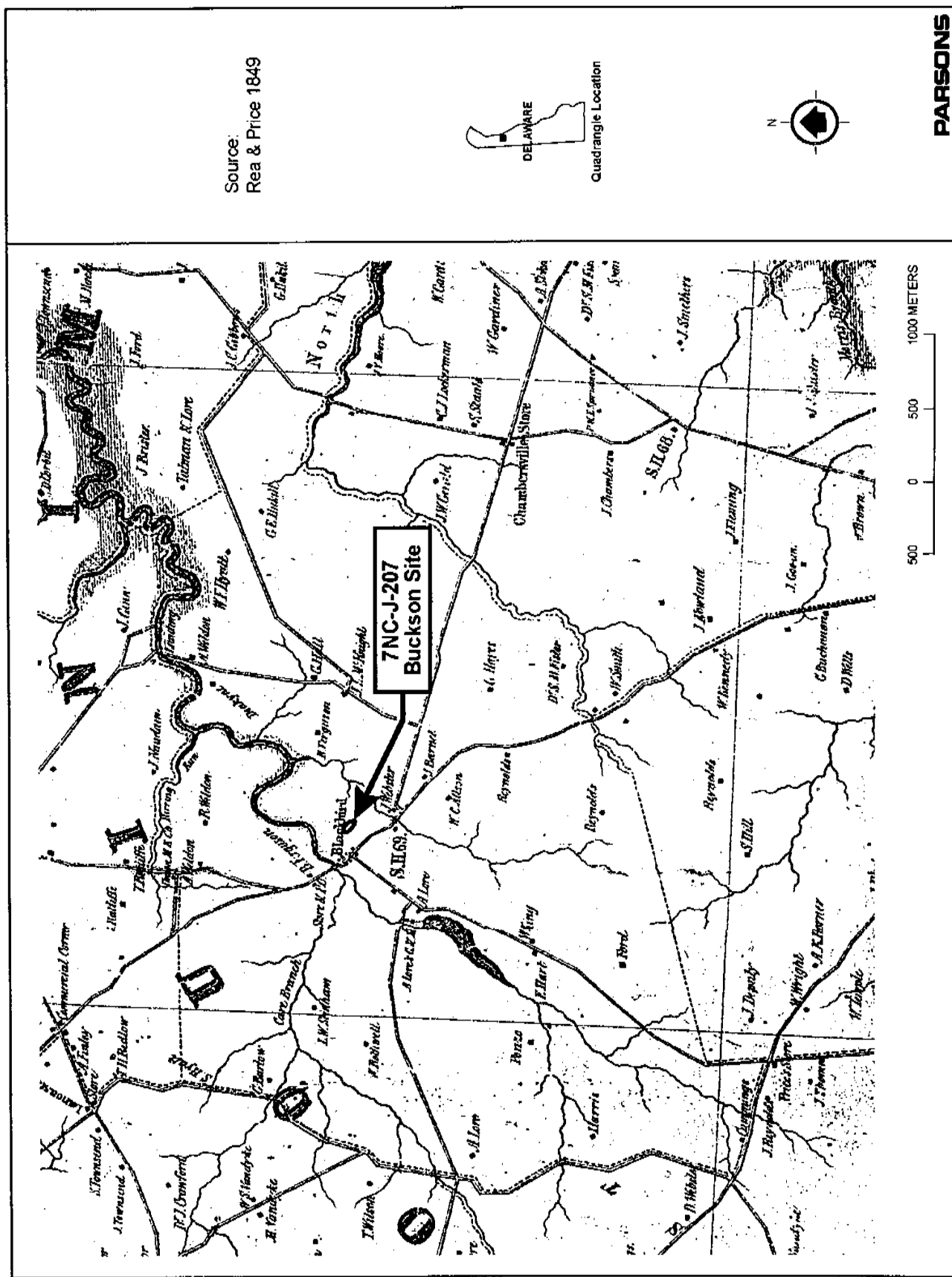


Figure 4-66. The Buckson Site area in 1849 (Rea & Price 1849)

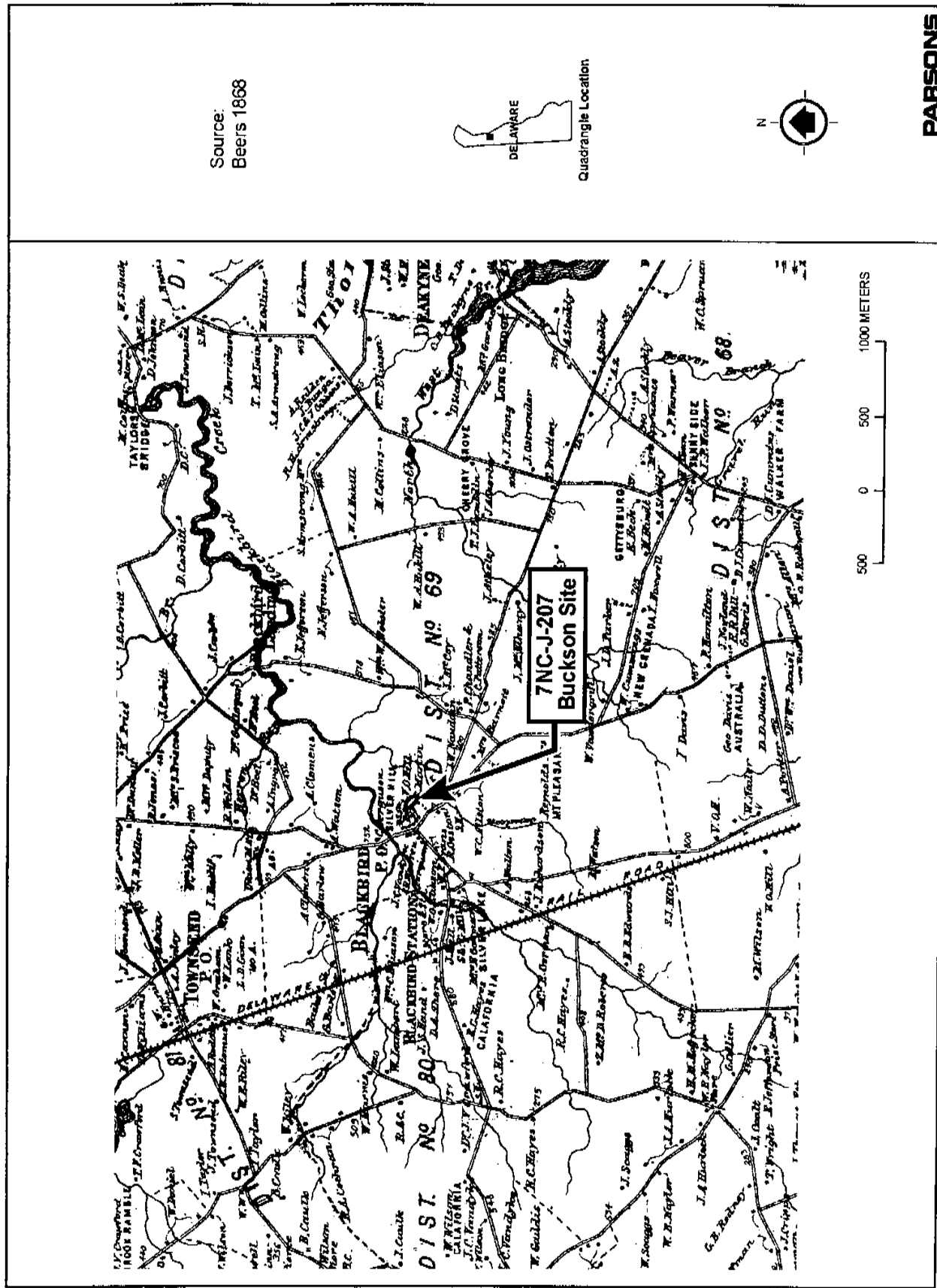


Figure 4-67. The Buckson Site area in 1868 (Beers 1868)

1873-1877). The 70 acres contained a frame house and frame barn, and Hickman owned livestock worth \$215.00.

Mark Hickman owed a debt of \$3,000.00 plus interest, and his property was ordered sold by the Superior Court in December 1878. Daniel Corbit bought the tract for \$3,500.00 in June 1879 (NCCDB 1879a). Soon thereafter, he sold the 102 acres to John H. Parvis for \$3,162.00 (NCCDB 1879b). The Hopkins 1881 map shows a Dr. J.H. Parvis residing on the property now named "Brookfield" (Figure 4-68). Parvis sold the property in February 1882 to Rebekah E. Reeder for \$4,100.00 (NCCDB 1882). Both parties were residents of Blackbird Hundred (formed from Appoquinimink Hundred in 1875) at the time.

The 1893 Baist map identifies Mrs. Reeder as residing on the Buckson Site (Figure 4-69). In September 1893, Rebekah Reeder sold the 102 acres to James A. Buckson of New Castle Hundred for \$2,100.00 (NCCDB 1893). Reeder, the widow of Daniel T., was resided in Butler, Pennsylvania by September 1893. A reservation in this deed states that about 85 perches of the property fronting on the east side of the public road had been previously granted to Colin Ferguson and the Commissioners of School District #69 (NCCDB 1886a). This was the location chosen for the new school, after the school district sold their school house building and ½-acre parcel (containing Site 7NC-J-199/200) on the west side of the main road in 1886.

The 102 acres remained in the Buckson family until 1989. The Tax Assessment Records for Blackbird Hundred (1st District, New Castle County) record buildings valued at \$1,500 in 1905, including a frame house and seven outbuildings (Table 4-38). The property value remained the same until 1918 when it dropped to \$900.00, suggesting buildings in disrepair, or the loss of some buildings. James A. Buckson was married to Frances V. ("Fannie"). In 1914, he and his wife and one child were living on the ca. 100 acres he owned in Blackbird (Farm Journal 1914:28). Buckson's occupation was a farmer in 1914.

James A. died in September 1924 leaving his wife and three children, Beulah, James S. and Charles V. In his will, he devised all his real estate to his wife for her natural life, and upon her death, his property was to be divided into equal thirds (NCCWB 1924). James A. owned two properties at the time of his death, Downey Farm in Thoroughfare Neck and the 124-acre tract near Blackbird containing the Buckson Site (James A. had purchased a 24-acre tract adjoining the original 102 acres in 1919). An aerial photograph taken in 1926 appears to depict the farmhouse and outbuildings clustered at the end of the driveway (Figure 4-70; Army Air Corps 1926). The driveway was roughly perpendicular to the main highway in 1926, and then curved slightly to the southeast at its north end. The farmhouse appears to be at the southwest corner of the cluster of buildings at the north end of the driveway.

By 1931, a new residence had been constructed on the property, closer to the newly widened U.S. Route 13 (Figure 4-71; USGS 1931). The new house does not seem to be present on the 1926 aerial photograph (Figure 4-70). The former farmhouse, at the end of the driveway, was no longer standing or was a ruin by 1931. Local tradition states that the old house burned down in the twentieth century. Current property tax lists state that the present house is a 3-bedroom bungalow built in 1930 (NCCLTR 2002). By 1940, building values increased to \$2,000.00 reflecting the construction of the new dwelling.

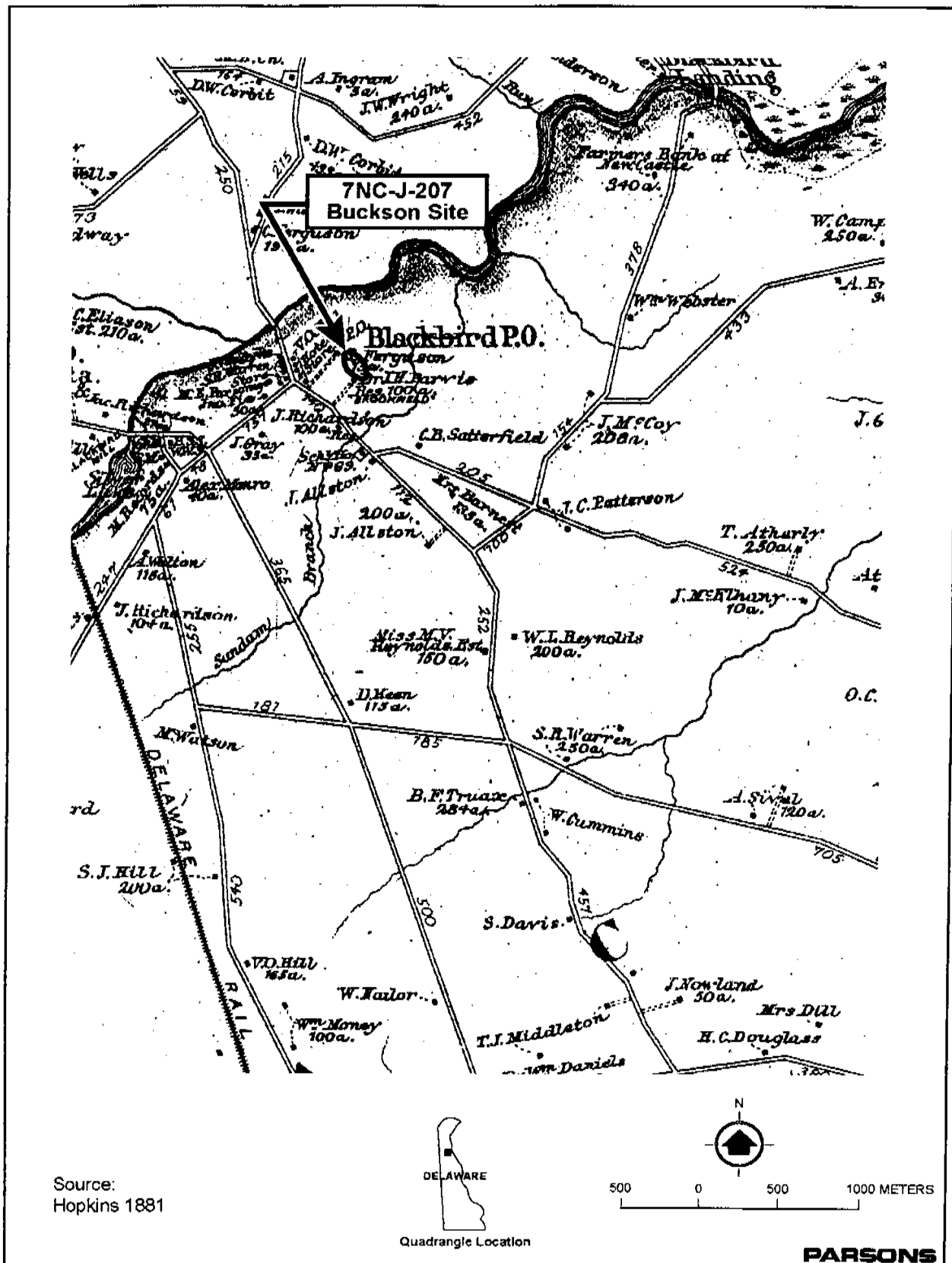


Figure 4-68. The Buckson Site area in 1881 (Hopkins 1881)

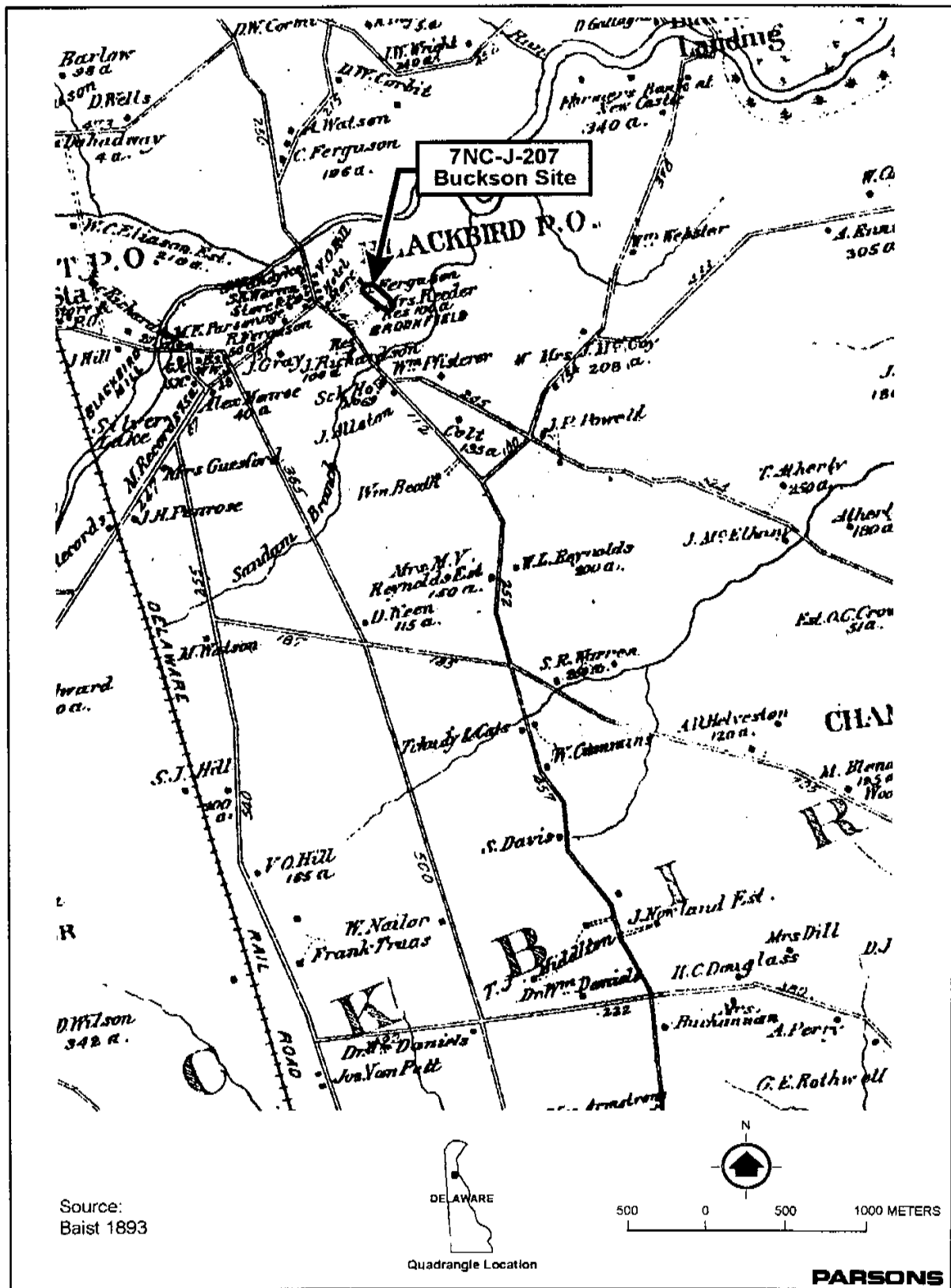


Figure 4-69. The Buckson Site area in 1893 (Baist 1893)

Table 4-38. Tax Assessments for the Buckson Site (7NC-J-207)

Year	Assessment	Comments
1905	\$1,500.00	Frame House and Seven Outbuildings
1913-1916	\$1,500.00	Frame House and Seven Outbuildings
1918-1919	\$900.00	Buildings only
1920	\$2,100.00	
1930	\$2,000.00	
1940	\$2,000.00	

James A. Buckson's widow, Frances, died in September 1954, and thus the property descended to the three children. Frances reportedly resided in the house situated near Blackbird until her death; also residing on this property near Blackbird were Beulah and James S. Charles V. had moved into Downey Farm after his father's death. In 1955, the heirs of James A. agreed that Charles V. would retain ownership of the Downey Farm, while Beulah and James S. would retain the farm near Blackbird (NCCDB 1955).

In September 1957, James S. Buckson of Blackbird, a widower, released his half interest in the property to his sister, Beulah (Mrs. Martin L. Shaw) (NCCDB 1957). Beulah Shaw died in 1980 and in accordance with her will dated 1976, the property descended to her son, Martin Shaw, Jr. In May 1989, Martin sold the land to Liborio III, L.P., a Delaware Limited Partnership for \$500,000.00 (NCCDB 1989a).

Local residents were interviewed regarding the Buckson property (Bradley 1999). Mr. and Mrs. George Bradley live in roughly the southern part of Blackbird just west of the highway a few blocks. George was able to relate that the original house on site 7NC-J-207 burned down around 1920 and that the current structure was built soon after. He remembers going to eat a nice picnic up in the meadow to the north of Site 7NC-J-195D, above the creek in around the trees. He was in the 4th or 5th grade at the time which was around 1930-31. At that time, he remembers that the house on 7NC-J-207 today is the same house that was there then. He knew the old Buckson place had burned down, but he didn't know where on the property former structure was located. The tax records show a decline from 1918-1919 in building values on the site and an increase in 1920 that stayed stationary until at least 1940, suggesting the old house was removed and the new house added.

Test Results. A total of 171 shovel tests was excavated in Areas 1 and 2, and the 7NC-J-207 site boundaries revised to 90 m north-south by 60 m east-west, based upon the extent of positive shovel tests (Figure 4-72). An initial 52 test units measuring 1 m x 1 m were judgmentally placed to focus on areas with elevated artifact counts, and to determine the extent of disturbance apparent in many of the STPs. Two of four additional units were excavated to further investigate a pit containing Native American artifacts (Feature 3) cut by a twentieth century utility trench (Feature 4). The remaining two units further exposed a cobble walkway (Features 25 and 48).

Stratigraphy varied across the Buckson Site, but a representative profile was observed in Test Unit N180/E521 (Figure 4-73). Topsoil consisted of a dark grayish brown (10YR4/2) sandy loam extending approximately 5 cm below ground level. Yellowish brown (10YR5/4) sandy silt loam was encountered as the second level terminating at approximately 15 cm below ground surface. The third stratum consisted of a yellowish brown (10YR5/8) to brownish yellow (10YR6/6) sandy silt loam. Several tests did not record this third stratum.



Figure 4-70. Aerial Photograph of the Buckson Site Area in 1926 (Army Air Corps 1926)

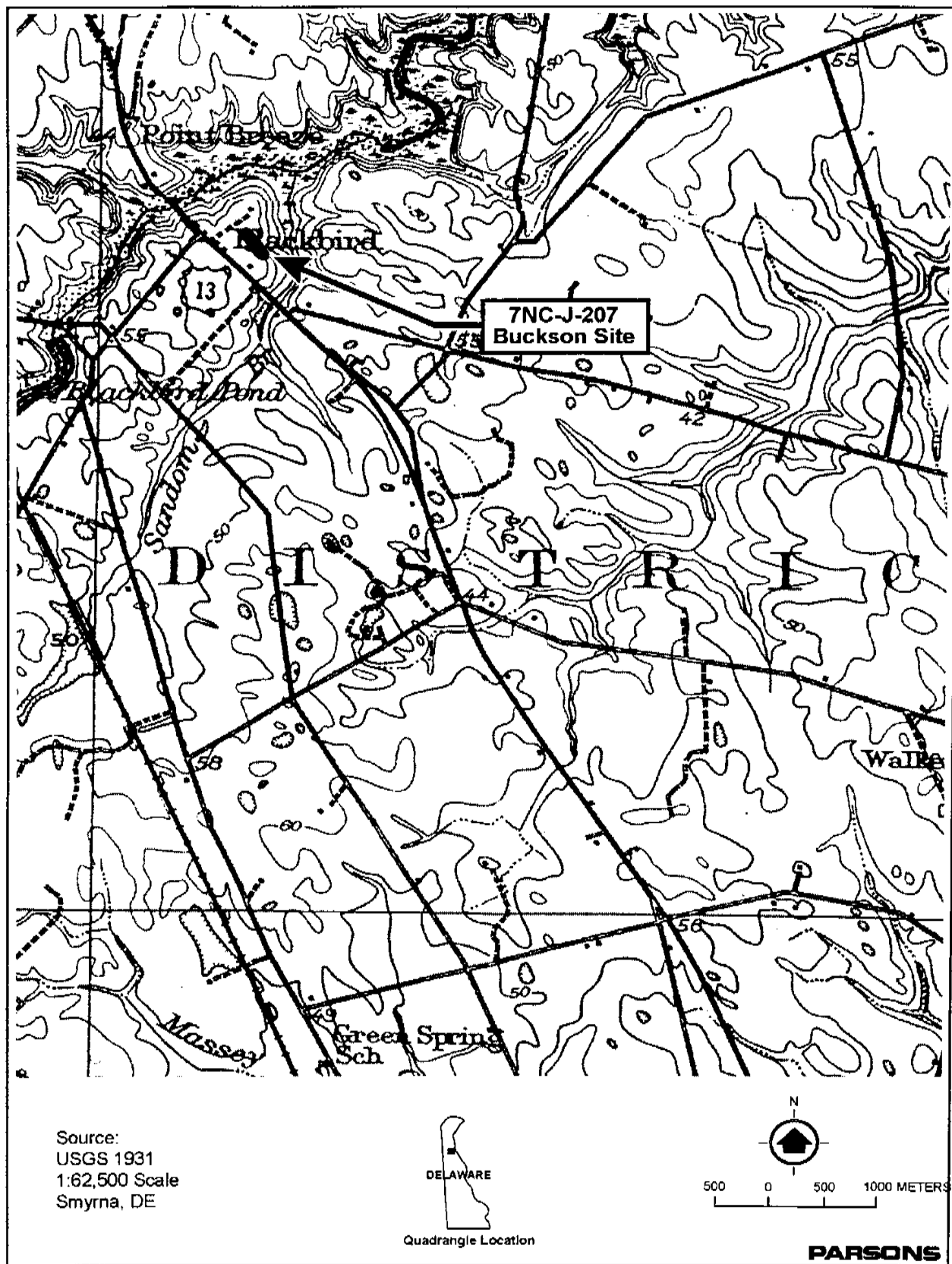


Figure 4-71. The Buckson Site area in 1931 (USGS 1931)

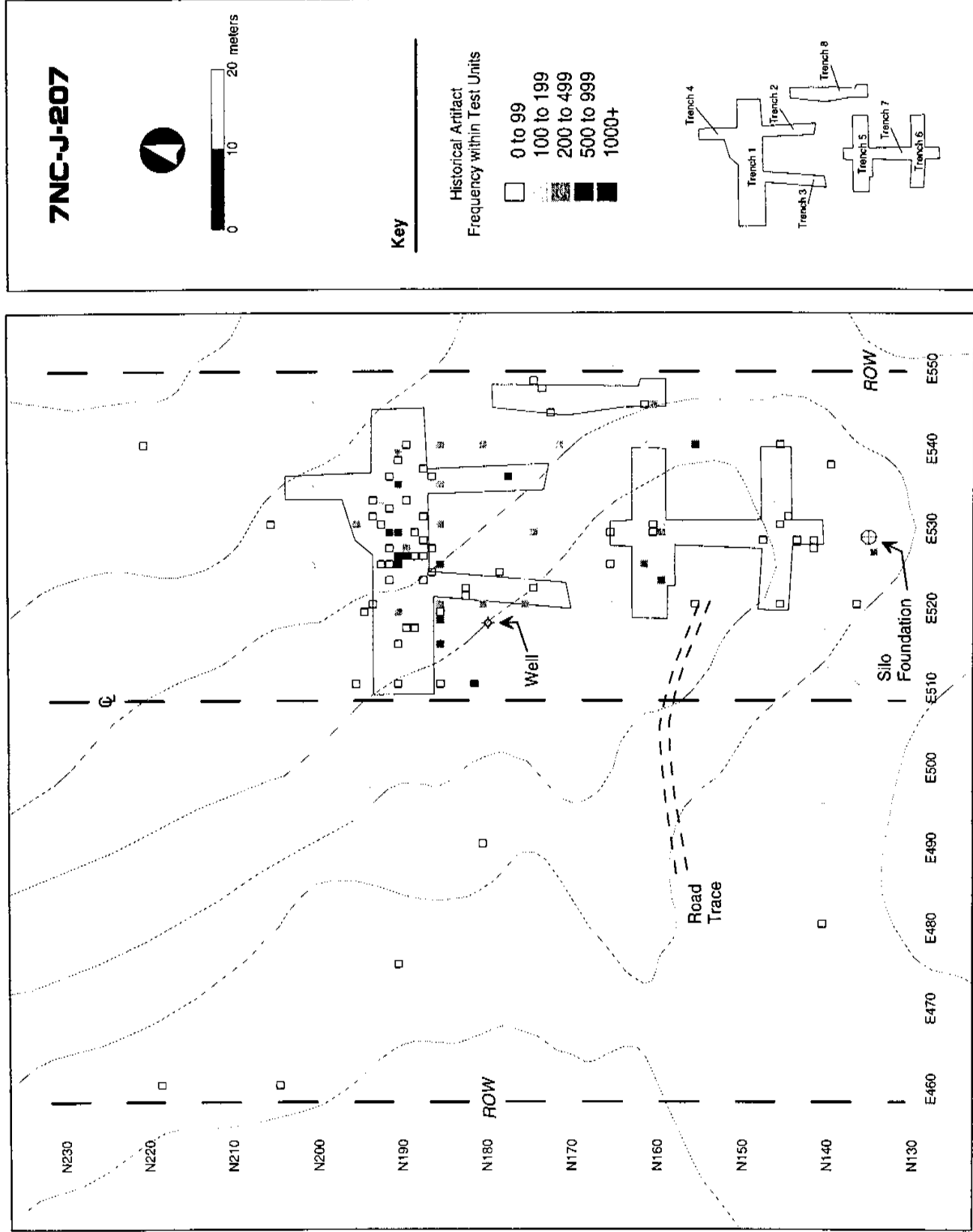


Figure 4-72. Site 7NC-J-207 Test Units, Trenches and Historical Artifact Counts

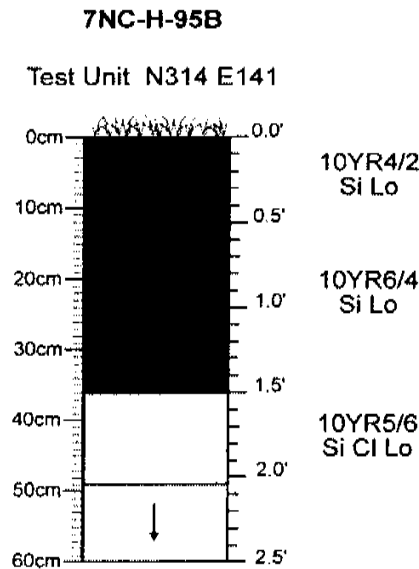


Figure 4-73. Representative Stratigraphic Profile from Site 7NC-J-207

The Buckson site yielded historical artifacts from the surface, all three sub-surface strata, and from features (Table 4-39, Figure 4-74). Temporally, these artifacts span from the late eighteenth century through the twentieth century. Artifacts contained within the first stratum (A) include machine-made bottle glass, blown-in-mold bottle glass, free-blown bottle glass, Albany slipped and Bristol-glazed stonewares, creamware, pearlware, decal-decorated whiteware, porcelain, Rockingham/Bennington, wire nails, and cut nails. This assemblage represents a mix of early nineteenth through early twentieth century materials. Artifacts from the second stratum (B) consist of wire and cut nails, machine made bottle glass, blown-in-mold bottle glass, free-blown bottle glass, Jackfield-like ceramics, decal-decorated whiteware, pearlware, white salt-glazed stoneware, Rockingham/Bennington, and Albany-slipped and Bristol-glazed stonewares. The stratum B assemblage was similar to the first stratum with a range of artifacts characteristic of early nineteenth through early twentieth century occupation (s). The third stratum contained a wire nail and two pieces of machine-made bottle glass. The appearance of later artifacts below earlier period artifacts indicates that the area has been extensively disturbed and lacks vertical integrity most likely the result of repeated plowing in most areas of the site and the demolition of the pre-1920 residence after it had burned. The presence of numerous intact or truncated historical features indicates discrete areas of integrity for the historical component despite the disturbance observed in the surrounding strata.

Table 4-39. Artifact Distribution by Stratum for Site 7NC-J-207

Stratum	Native American Artifact	Historical Artifact	Total
Surface	0	4	4
A	188	14,260	14,448
B	21	1,633	1,654
C	0	43	43
Feature	93	9547	9640
Total	302	25,487	25,789